

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 027501

EXDIS, FROM THE SECRETARY FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, MARR, MASS, TU, US

SUBJECT: US-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT NEGOTIA-
TIONS

REF : ANKARA 815

1. I APPRECIATE THE EFFORT YOU ARE MAKING TO NARROW THE
NEGOTIATING GAP IN PREPARATION FOR CAGLAYANGIL'S VISIT TO
WASHINGTON. I HAVE READ YOUR REPORT ON YOUR PRIVATE CON-
VERSATION WITH ELEKDAG JANUARY 30 IN WHICH HE INDICATED
THAT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT STILL HAVE
UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS REGARDING A POSSIBLE LEVEL OF US
ASSISTANCE. AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY YOU SHOULD CONVEY
TO CAGLAYANGIL MY ASSESSMENT OF WHAT IS ATTAINABLE. I WOULD
WANT THIS DONE IN A POSITIVE MANNER WITH EMPHASIS ON MY
DESIRE TO EXPLAIN OUR POSITION AND WHAT CAN BE DONE FOR TUR-
KEY MORE FULLY TO CAGLAYANGIL IN WASHINGTON.

2. YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE TO CAGLAYANGIL, AS YOU HAVE TO

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ELEKDAG, THAT WE WOULD EXPECT THE SIGNING OF A DEFENSE CO-

OPERATION AGREEMENT TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF OUR INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS AT JOINT INSTALLATIONS. THIS WILL PERMIT US TO GO TO THE CONGRESS TO SEEK APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH ITS MULTI-YEAR ASSISTANCE PACKAGE; AND THROUGH SUCH A PROCESS -- COUPLED WITH PROGRESS ON CYPRUS -- IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FULLY TO RESTORE OUR MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH TURKEY.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE, YOU MAY TELL CAGLAYANGIL THAT WE HAVE PUT FORWARD A FIGURE FOR FMS GRANT AND CREDIT ASSISTANCE WHICH IS THE MAXIMUM THAT WE BELIEVE COULD OBTAIN CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL. WE CAN UNDERSTAND THE DESIRE OF THE TURKISH LEADERS FOR THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE. IT IS MY JUDGMENT, AND THAT OF THE PRESIDENT, THAT THE FIGURE WE HAVE ADVANCED REPRESENTS THAT LEVEL. YOU MAY ADD, HOWEVER, THAT WE WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO INCREASE OUR TOTAL SUPPORT OF TURKEY'S DEFENSE NEEDS AND ECONOMY. WHEN THE FOREIGN MINISTER COMES TO WASHINGTON I WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS WITH HIM A NUMBER OF AREAS IN WHICH WE MIGHT EXPLORE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE. THESE WOULD INCLUDE TRAINING, HELPING TURKEY ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL SIGINT CAPABILITY, AND INCREASED COOPERATION IN THE USE OF US COMMUNICATIONS CIRCUITS. WE WOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS HOW WE MIGHT ENCOURAGE INCREASED EXIM BANK LOANS FOR TURKISH PROJECTS.

(FYI: WE ARE EXPLORING OTHER POSSIBLE SWEETENERS WITH DOD, AND DECISIONS REGARDING STREAMLINING WILL HAVE BEEN MADE BY THAT TIME. END FYI.)

4. I WOULD LIKE CAGLAYANGIL TO CONVEY THE ABOVE TO PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL AND TO TELL HIM THAT IT REPRESENTS MY BEST ASSESSMENT OF WHAT CAN BE DONE WITH CONGRESS TO ESTABLISH A MULTI-YEAR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR TURKEY. HE SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT THIS PROGRAM FOR A NATO ALLY IS IN NO WAY COMPARABLE TO THE KIND OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE WE ARE PROPOSING FOR THE UAR AND ISRAEL FOLLOWING AN ARMED CONFLICT WHICH COST FAR GREATER SUMS AND WHOSE RECURRENCE WE ARE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO PREVENT. FURTHERMORE, SUCH ASSISTANCE IS GIVEN TO SUPPORT PEACE AND SECURITY IN AN AREA WHICH IS VITAL TO ALL OF OUR ALLIES, AND PARTICULARLY TO TURKEY WHICH HAS SPECIAL INTERESTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

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5. YOU MAY ALSO, IN MY NAME, EMPHASIZE TO CAGLAYANGIL THE IMPORTANCE OF SATISFYING OUR MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS ON THE TAX RELIEF AND NATO/SOFA PROVISIONS OF ANY AGREEMENT THAT CAN HOPE TO OBTAIN CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL. IF EARLY AGREEMENT

MENT CAN BE REACHED ON THESE ISSUES, IT WILL PERMIT US IN
WASHINGTON TO CONCENTRATE ON THE BASIC ELEMENTS OF OUR
ALLIANCE RELATIONSHIP.

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